

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

160834Z Jan 04

UNCLAS ANKARA 000291

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [EPET](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: IMPORTANCE OF COORDINATION IN WASHINGTON ON TRAVEL
AND POLICY INITIATIVES CONCERNING TURKEY

From time to time we find it necessary to re-emphasize the importance of coordinating policy initiatives in Washington before engaging Turkish officials. Recently, officials from a U.S. agency visited Ankara to discuss cooperation on energy issues and made some specific proposals. Although they did clear their travel with the Turkish Desk, the initiative was not widely discussed and agreed in the policy community. The Special Representative for Caspian Energy Diplomacy (CBED), who has the mandate to coordinate Caspian energy policy, was taken by surprise when questioned on the status of these proposals during his recent visit here. As a result, both the GOT and the Embassy were at a loss. If there is some confusion about which offices should be consulted on policy initiatives with Turkey, please contact the Turkish Desk at State or consult with the appropriate officer in our embassy. Embassy Ankara's ability to support policy initiatives and grant country clearances for visitors depends on this coordination taking place.

EDELMAN